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194
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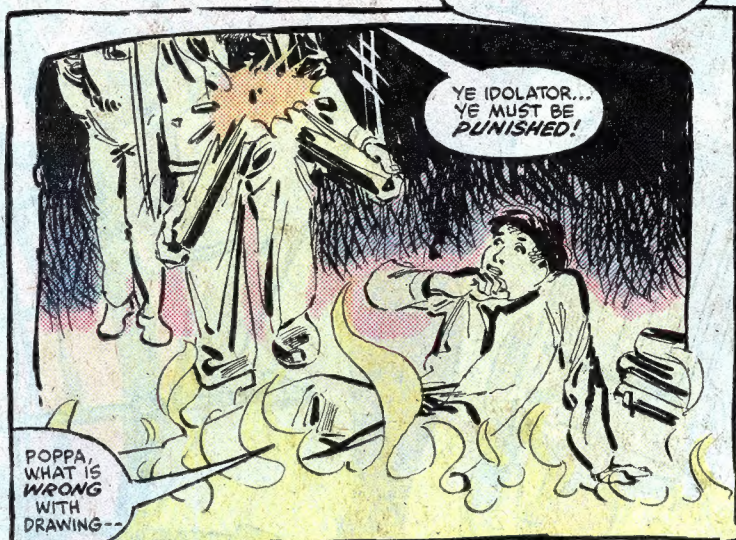
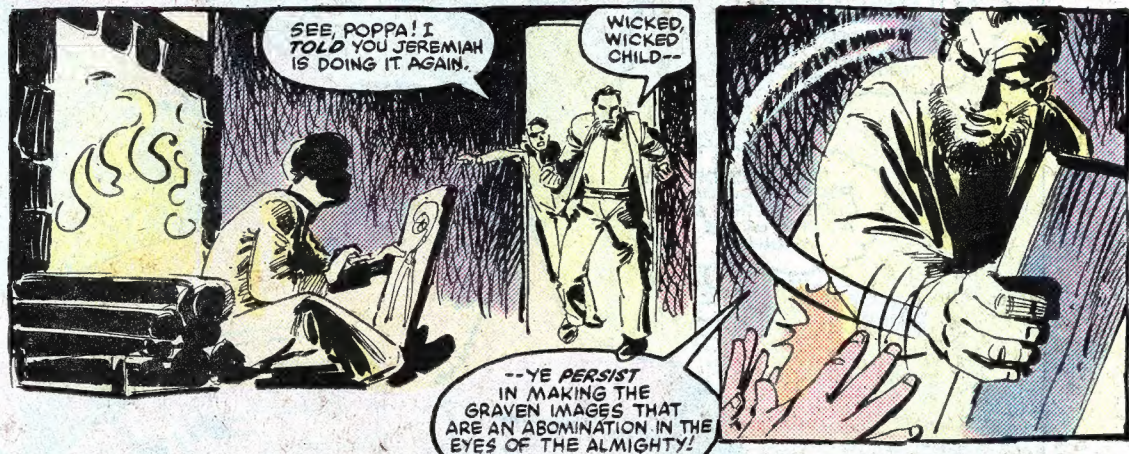
DAREDEVIL

TM



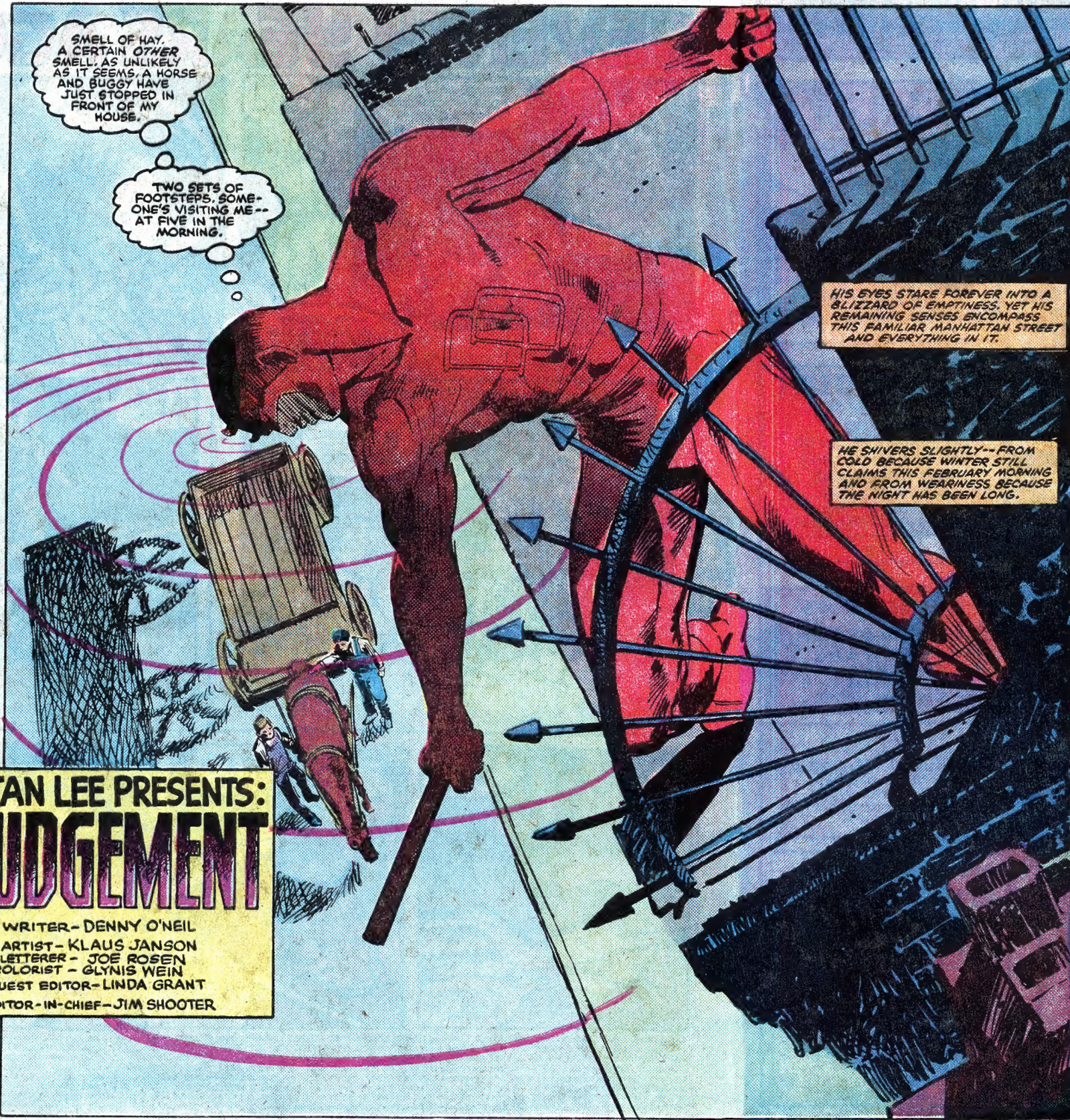
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SEVENTY YEARS AGO



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STAN LEE PRESENTS:
JUDGEMENT
 WRITER - DENNY O'NEIL
 ARTIST - KLAUS JANSON
 LETTERER - JOE ROSEN
 COLORIST - GLYNIS WEIN
 GUEST EDITOR - LINDA GRANT
 EDITOR-IN-CHIEF - JIM SHOOTER

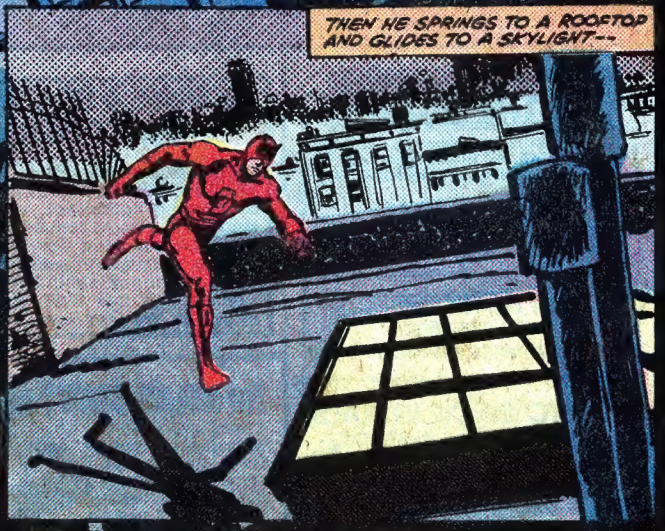


SMELL OF HAY.
 A CERTAIN OTHER
 SMELL, AS UNLIKELY
 AS IT SEEMS, A HORSE
 AND BUGGY HAVE
 JUST STOPPED IN
 FRONT OF MY
 HOUSE.

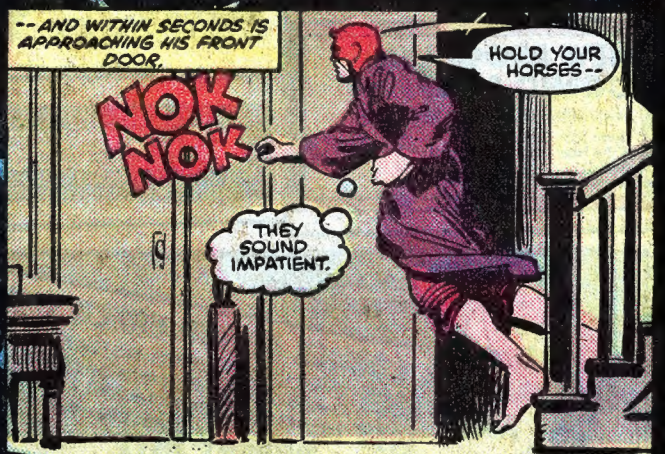
TWO SETS OF
 FOOTSTEPS. SOME-
 ONE'S VISITING ME--
 AT FIVE IN THE
 MORNING.

HIS EYES STARE FOREVER INTO A
 BLIZZARD OF EMPTINESS. YET HIS
 REMAINING SENSES ENCOMPASS
 THIS FAMILIAR MANHATTAN STREET
 AND EVERYTHING IN IT.

HE SHIVERS SLIGHTLY--FROM
 COLD BECAUSE WINTER STILL
 CLAIMS THIS FEBRUARY MORNING
 AND FROM WEARINESS BECAUSE
 THE NIGHT HAS BEEN LONG.



THEN HE SPRINGS TO A ROOFTOP
 AND GLIDES TO A SKYLIGHT--



-- AND WITHIN SECONDS IS
 APPROACHING HIS FRONT
 DOOR.

**NOK
 NOK**

HOLD YOUR
 HORSES--

THEY
 SOUND
 IMPATIENT.



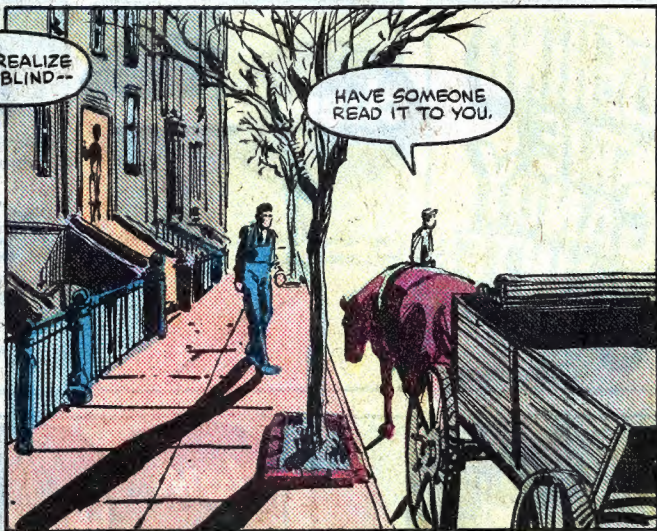
YOU'RE
 MATTHEW
 MURDOCK?

THE
 LAWYER?

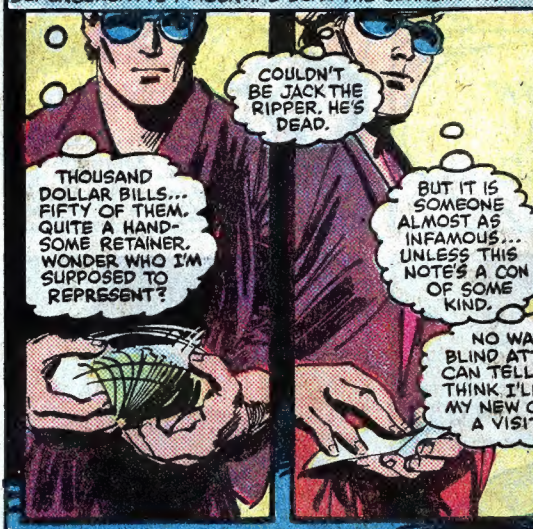
YES, BUT
 I DON'T
 RECEIVE
 CLIENTS IN
 MY HOME--
 AND MY
 OFFICE
 HOURS BEGIN
 AT TEN.



YOU REALIZE I'M BLIND--



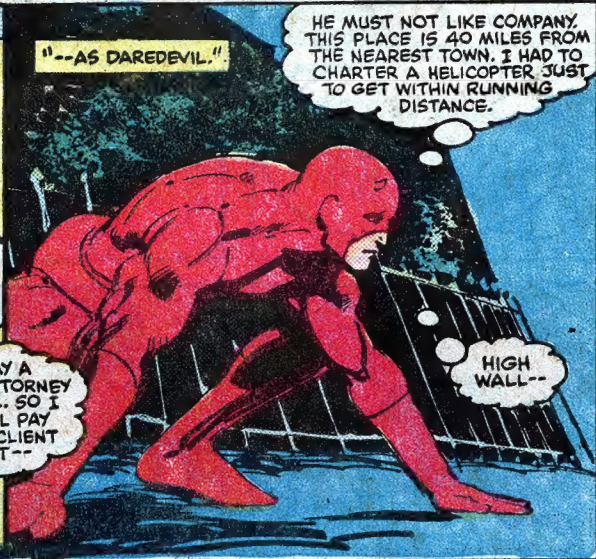
SUPERSENSITIVE FINGERTIPS SCAN THE CURRENCY...

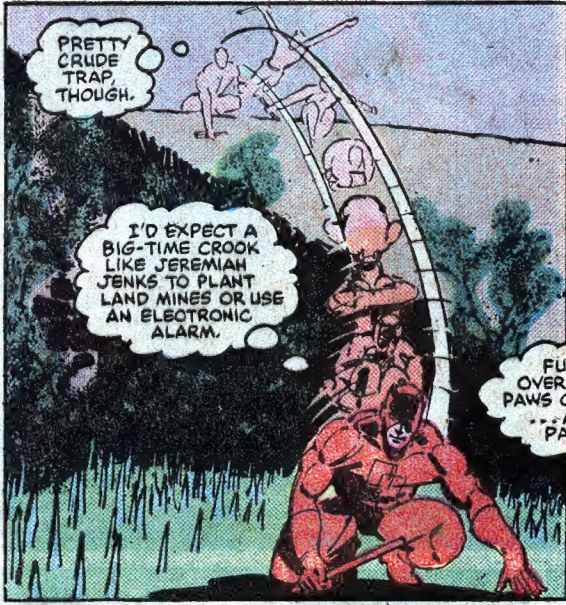


BUT IT IS SOMEONE ALMOST AS INFAMOUS... UNLESS THIS NOTE'S A CON OF SOME KIND.

NO WAY A BLIND ATTORNEY CAN TELL. SO I THINK I'LL PAY MY NEW CLIENT A VISIT--

--AS DAREDEVIL--

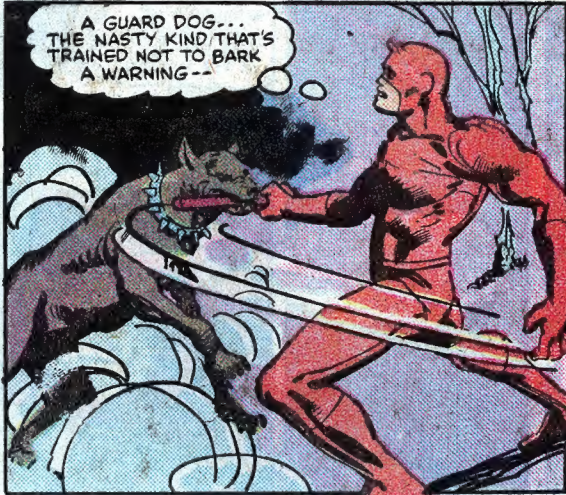




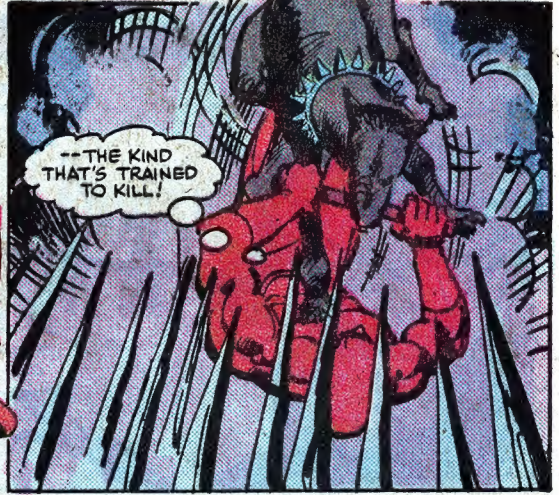
PRETTY
CRUDE
TRAP
THOUGH.

I'D EXPECT A
BIG-TIME CROOK
LIKE JEREMIAH
JENKS TO PLANT
LAND MINES OR USE
AN ELECTRONIC
ALARM.

FUN'S NOT
OVER YET! I HEAR
PAWS ON THE GRASS
...A SLIGHT
PANTING.



A GUARD DOG...
THE NASTY KIND THAT'S
TRAINED NOT TO BARK
A WARNING--

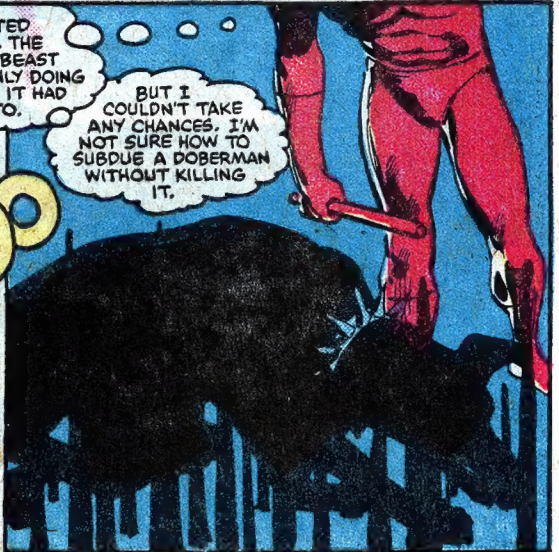


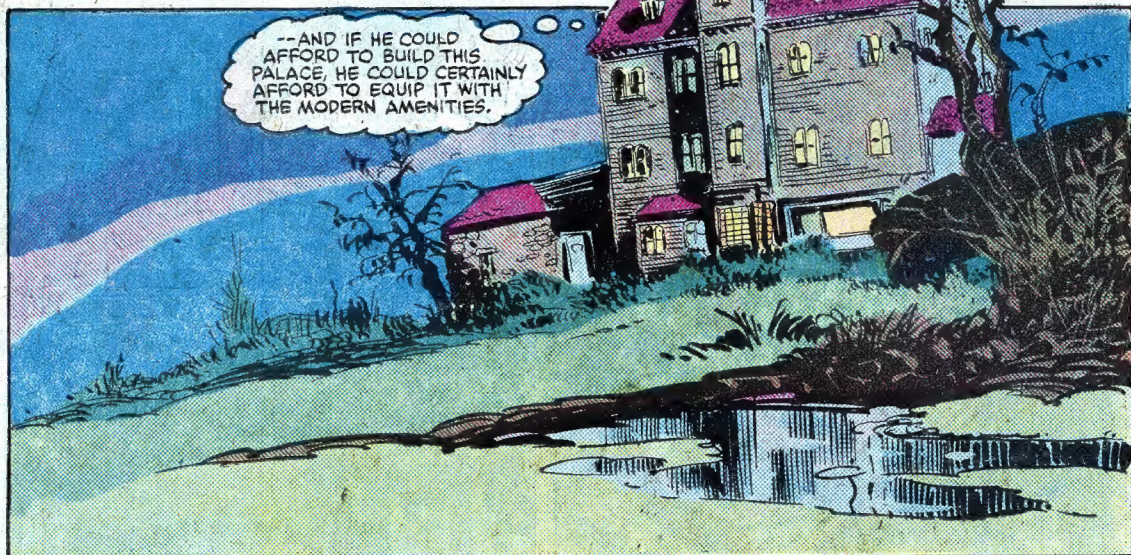
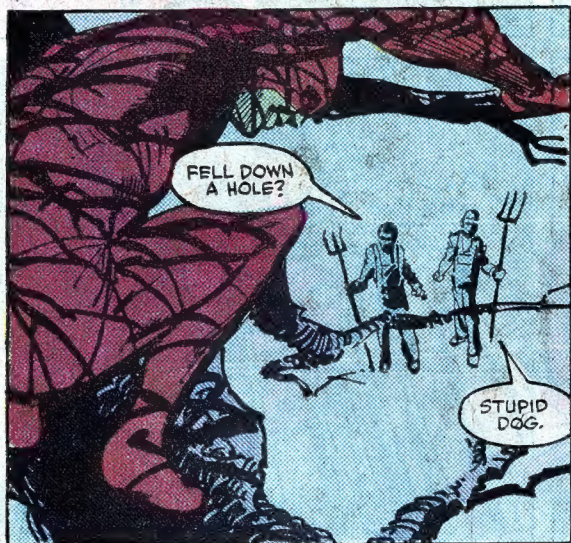
--THE KIND
THAT'S TRAINED
TO KILL!



I HATED
THAT. THE
POOR BEAST
WAS ONLY DOING
WHAT IT HAD
TO.

BUT I
COULDN'T TAKE
ANY CHANCES. I'M
NOT SURE HOW TO
SUBDUCE A DOBERMAN
WITHOUT KILLING
IT.





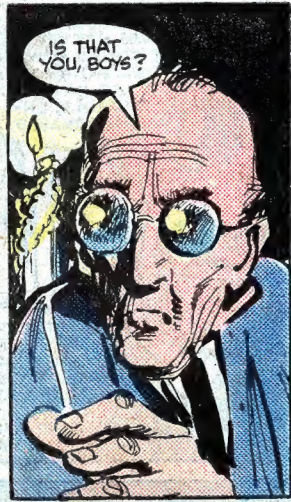


GLASS IS SLIGHTLY WARM--

--WHICH GIVES ME MY STARTING PLACE, I GUESS.



MATTHEW? JOHN? IS THAT YOU?



IS THAT YOU, BOYS?



NO, I'M NOT ONE OF YOUR SONS. WE HAVEN'T MET.

BUT I KNOW WHO YOU ARE, DAREDEVIL, RIGHT? AND, AS YOU ARE AWARE, I AM JEREMIAH JENK.

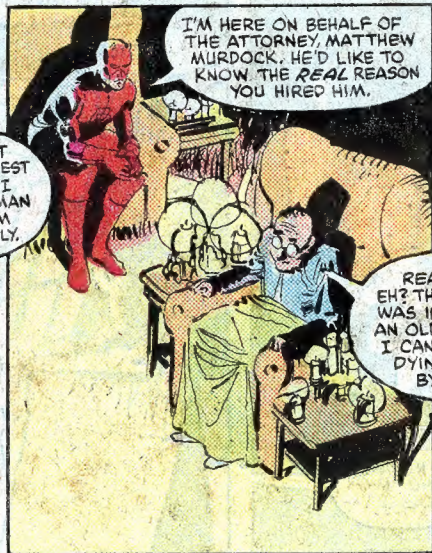
I CAN'T SAY I'M PLEASED TO MAKE YOUR ACQUAINTANCE, BUT COME IN--



--COME AND WARM YOURSELF.

YOU WANT TO ARREST ME? YOU HAVEN'T HEARD I'M RETIRED?

I WOULDN'T WANT TO ARREST YOU EVEN IF I WERE A LAWMAN --WHICH I'M NOT, EXACTLY.

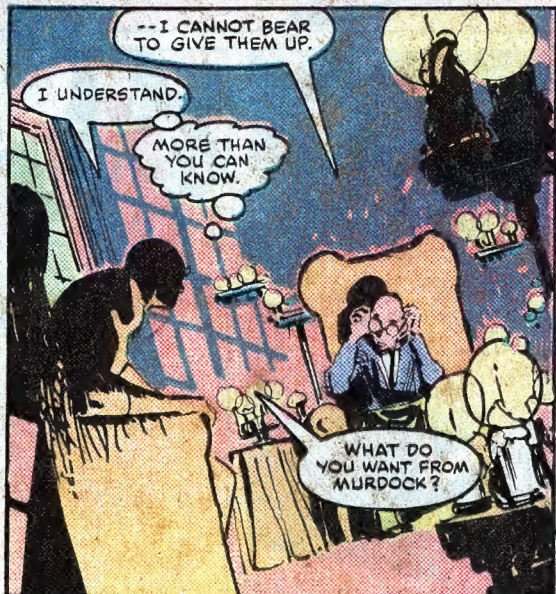
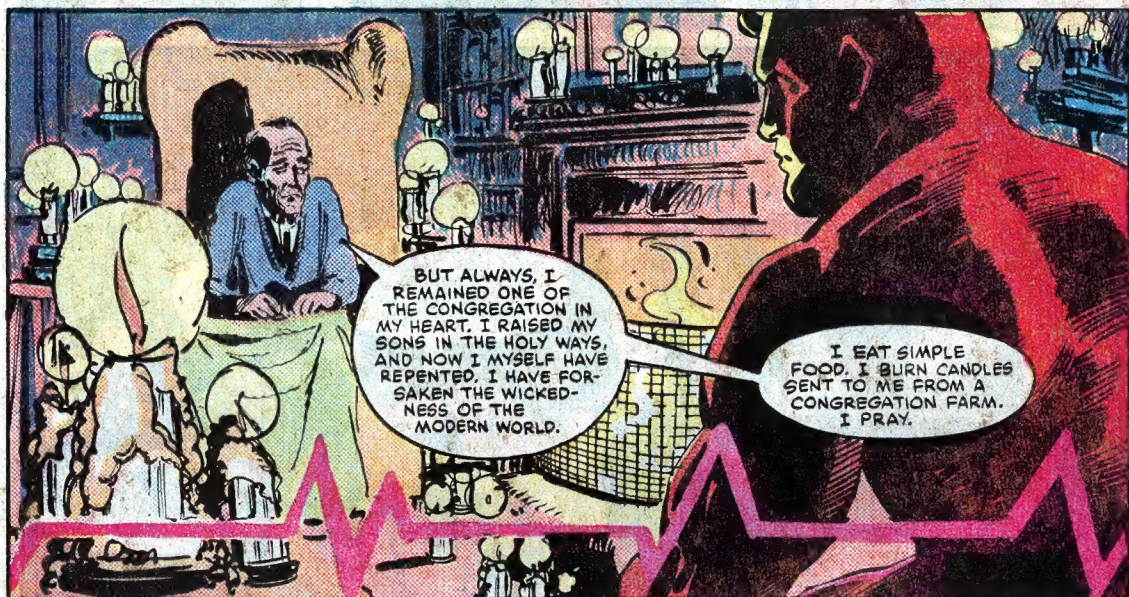
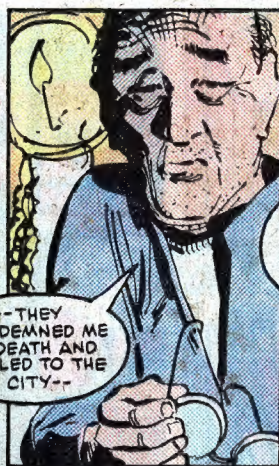
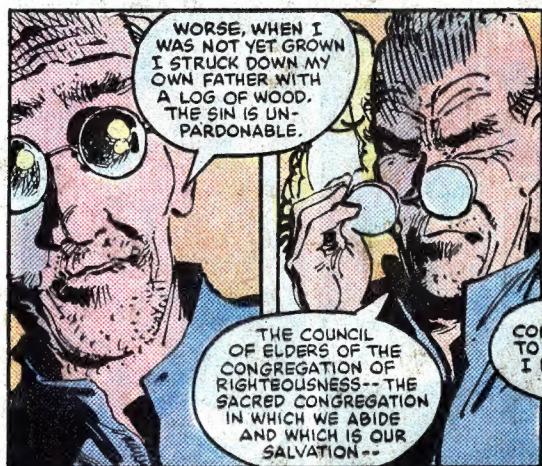


I'M HERE ON BEHALF OF THE ATTORNEY, MATTHEW MURDOCK. HE'D LIKE TO KNOW THE REAL REASON YOU HIRED HIM.

REAL REASON? EH? THE REAL REASON WAS IN THE NOTE. I'M AN OLD MAN. I'M DYING. I CAN FEEL MYSELF DYING SECOND BY SECOND.



AND I'VE MUCH TO ATONE FOR, OH YES. THE COUNTERFEIT BILLS I MADE-- THEY CAUSED DEGRADATION AND SUFFERING AND MURDER.





HE SHOULD PLEAD WITH THE ELDERS TO TAKE ME BACK... TO PUNISH ME AND IN PUNISHING, TO FORGIVE.

MURDOCK WAS ABLE TO FREE MELVIN POTTER--A MASS MURDERER--



--PERHAPS HIS GREAT SKILL AT ARGUING CAN SOFTEN THE ELDERS' WRATH.



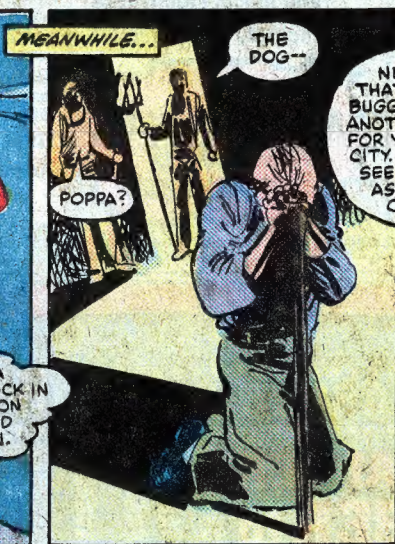
DON'T COUNT ON IT. THAT'S NOT MURDOCK'S KIND OF LAW. BUT HE'LL DO HIS BEST--

--AND LATER PROBABLY ASK HIMSELF WHY.



AIR! I ALMOST GAGGED IN THERE... THE STENCH FROM THOSE CANDLES... THE MUSTINESS... THE OVERWHELMING SENSE OF-- TORMENT.

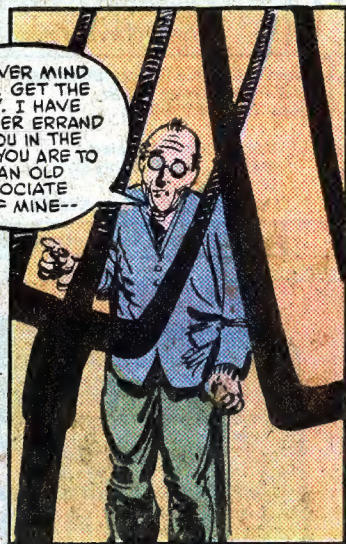
IT'LL BE A RELIEF TO SUCK IN THE POLLUTION OF GOOD OLD MANHATTAN.



MEANWHILE...

THE DOG--

POPPA?



NEVER MIND THAT. GET THE BUGGY. I HAVE ANOTHER ERRAND FOR YOU IN THE CITY. YOU ARE TO SEE AN OLD ASSOCIATE OF MINE--



"--THE KINGPIN."

SO YOUR FATHER WANTS PROTECTION UNTIL THIS COUNCIL MEETS. HE WAS APPROACHED BY DAREDEVIL, AND HE FEARS THAT IF THE MASKED MAN COULD BREACH HIS DEFENSES, ANYONE COULD.

HE UNDERESTIMATES DAREDEVIL.



I SHALL GUARANTEE THAT THE ELDERS HEED YOUR FATHER'S WISHES.



FOR REASONS OF MY OWN. HAVING THE GRATITUDE OF THE FINEST COUNTERFEITER WHO EVER LIVED MIGHT BE USEFUL SOME DAY.



WILSON, I WILL REQUIRE THE SERVICES OF EIGHT LABORERS. THEY NEED NOT BE BRIGHT, BUT THEY SHOULD BE STRONG.

AND MEAN.

YOU WILL SEND THEM--



-- TO UPSTATE NEW YORK.

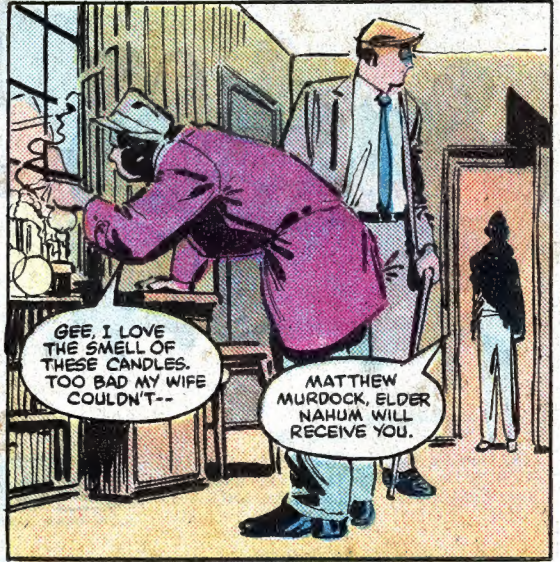
GOLLY, MATT, YOU'RE REALLY GONNA HAVE TO STRUT YOUR STUFF WITH THESE PEOPLE. THEY'RE SOMETIMES MISTAKEN FOR MENNONITES AND AMISH--



-- BUT THEY'RE REALLY MUCH STRICTER. THERE HAVE BEEN RUMORS OF EXECUTION AND TORTURE -- LIKE THE INQUISITION IN THE MIDDLE AGES--

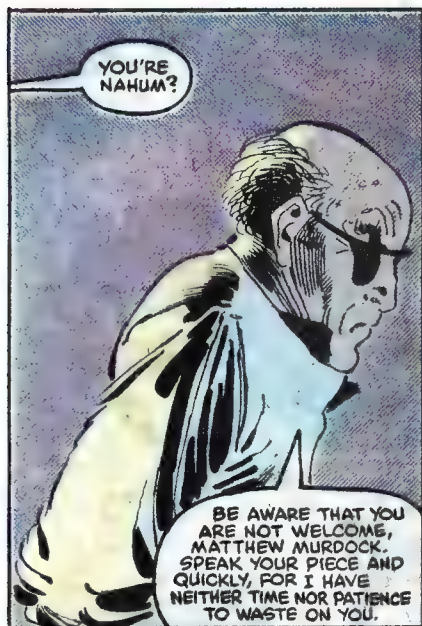
YOU BRIEFED ME ON THE RIDE UP HERE, FOGGY. REMEMBER?

WELL, REMINDERS NEVER HURT.

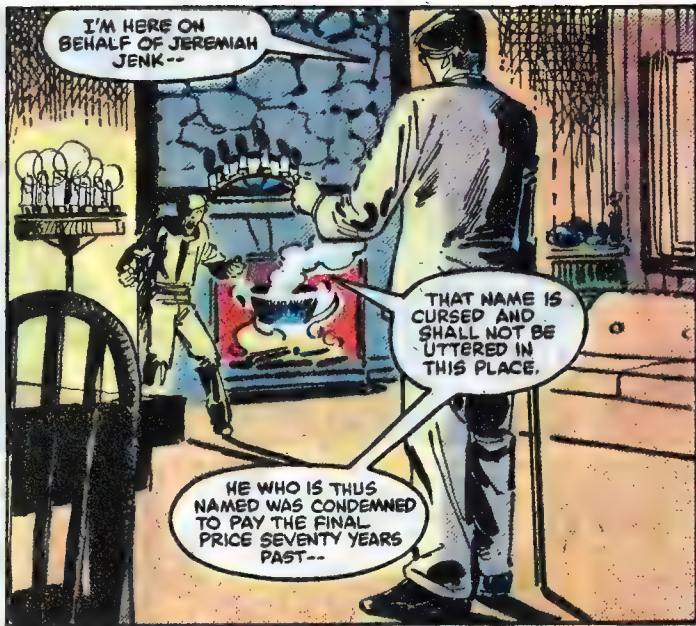


GEE, I LOVE THE SMELL OF THESE CANDLES. TOO BAD MY WIFE COULDN'T--

MATTHEW MURDOCK, ELDER NAHUM WILL RECEIVE YOU.



BE AWARE THAT YOU ARE NOT WELCOME, MATTHEW MURDOCK. SPEAK YOUR PIECE AND QUICKLY, FOR I HAVE NEITHER TIME NOR PATIENCE TO WASTE ON YOU.



I'M HERE ON BEHALF OF JEREMIAH JENK--

THAT NAME IS CURSED AND SHALL NOT BE UTTERED IN THIS PLACE.

HE WHO IS THUS NAMED WAS CONDEMNED TO PAY THE FINAL PRICE SEVENTY YEARS PAST--



--AND ONCE DEATH HAS BEEN DECREED BY THE COUNCIL, THE DECREE CAN NEVER BE RESCINDED.

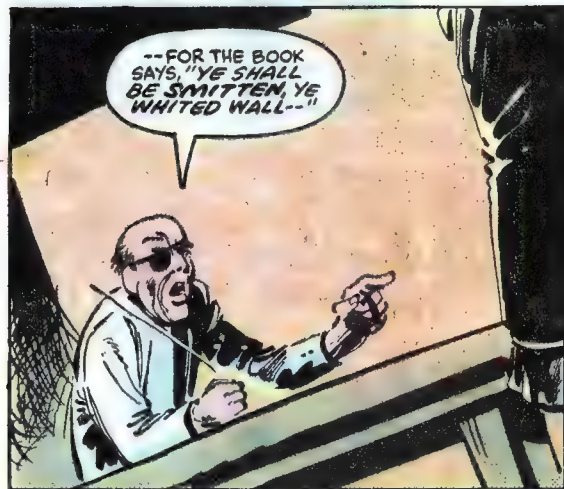
YOUR RULES ARE HARSH--



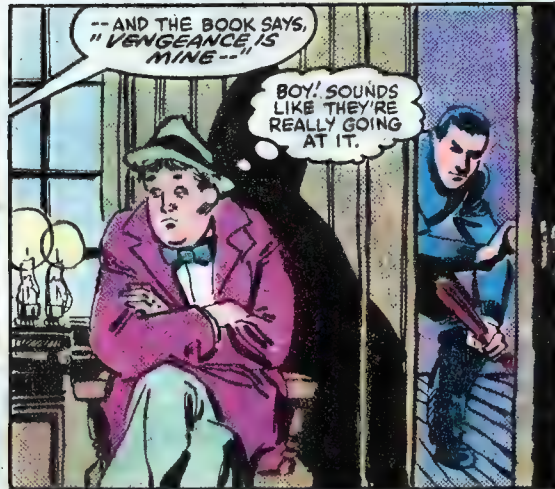
WE HAVE NO CRIME. WE HAVE NO VIOLENCE. WE HAVE NO DIVORCE. OUR PEOPLE WALK IN PEACE ALL THEIR DAYS ON EARTH.



YEA, AND ACT ON THAT JUDGMENT WHEN GRANTED THE OPPORTUNITY--



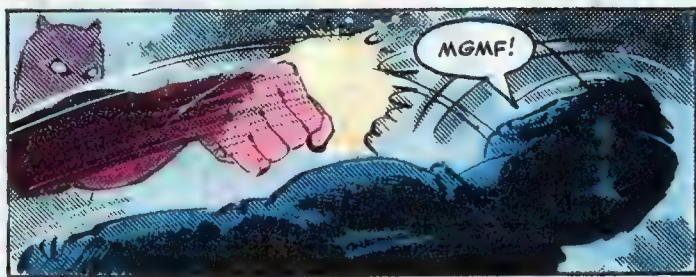
--FOR THE BOOK SAYS, "YE SHALL BE SMITTEN, YE WHITED WALL--"

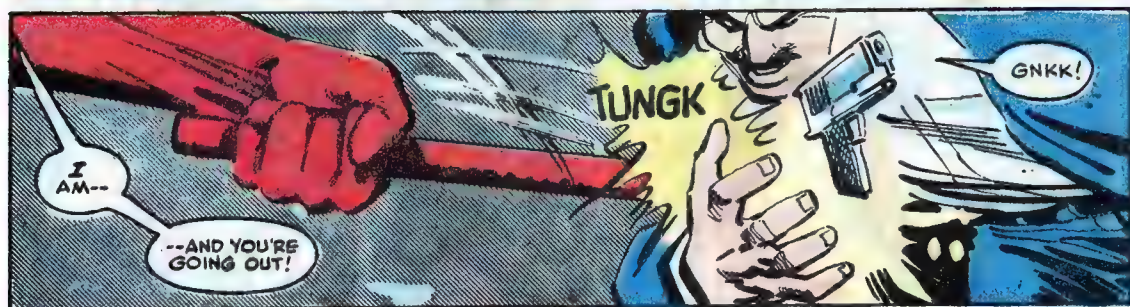
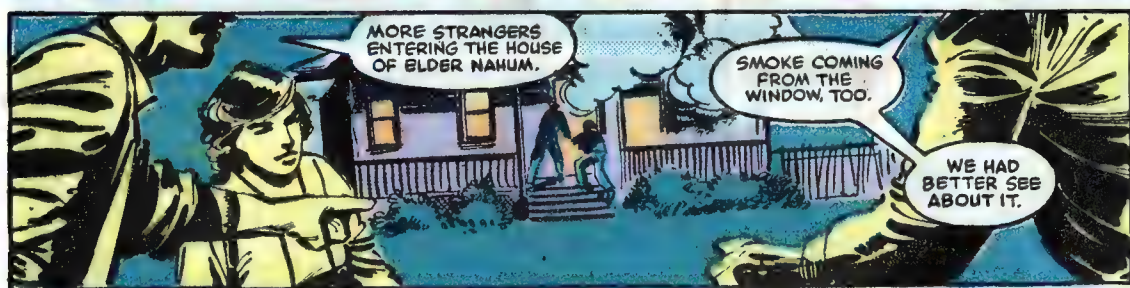


--AND THE BOOK SAYS, "VENGEANCE IS MINE--"

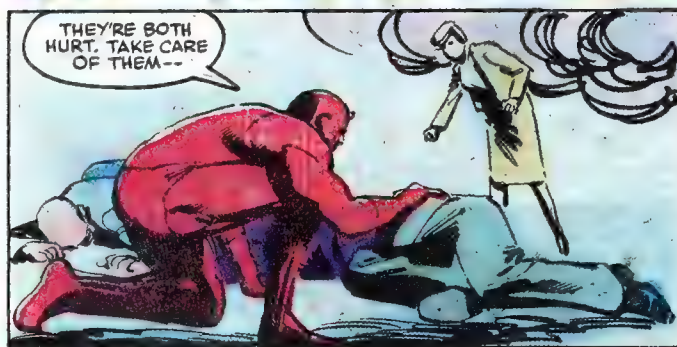
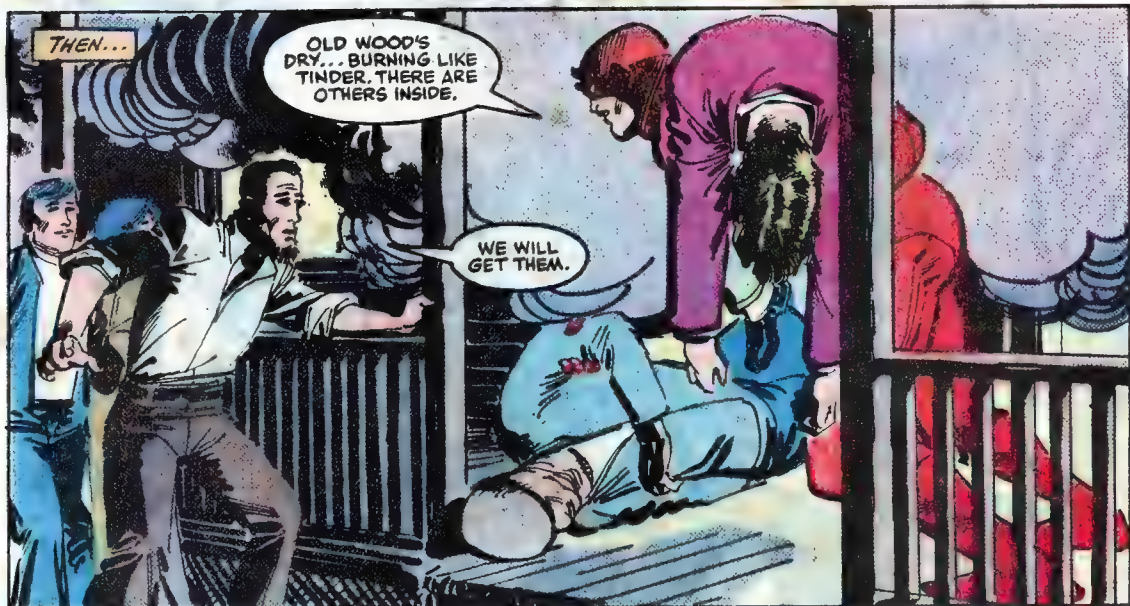
BOY! SOUNDS LIKE THEY'RE REALLY GOING AT IT.

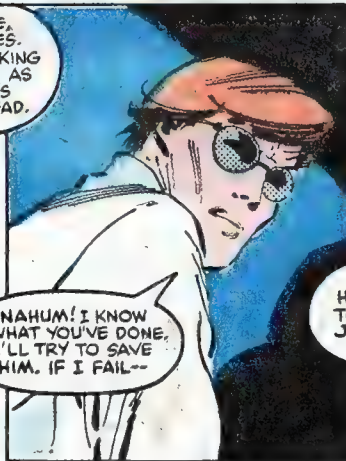
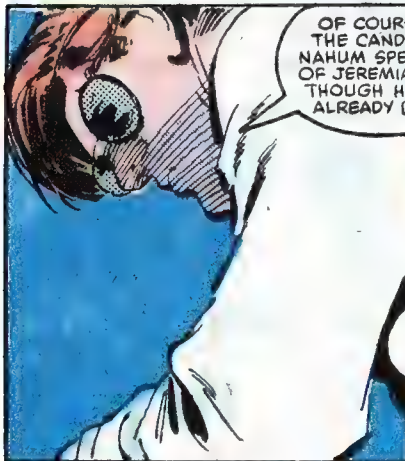
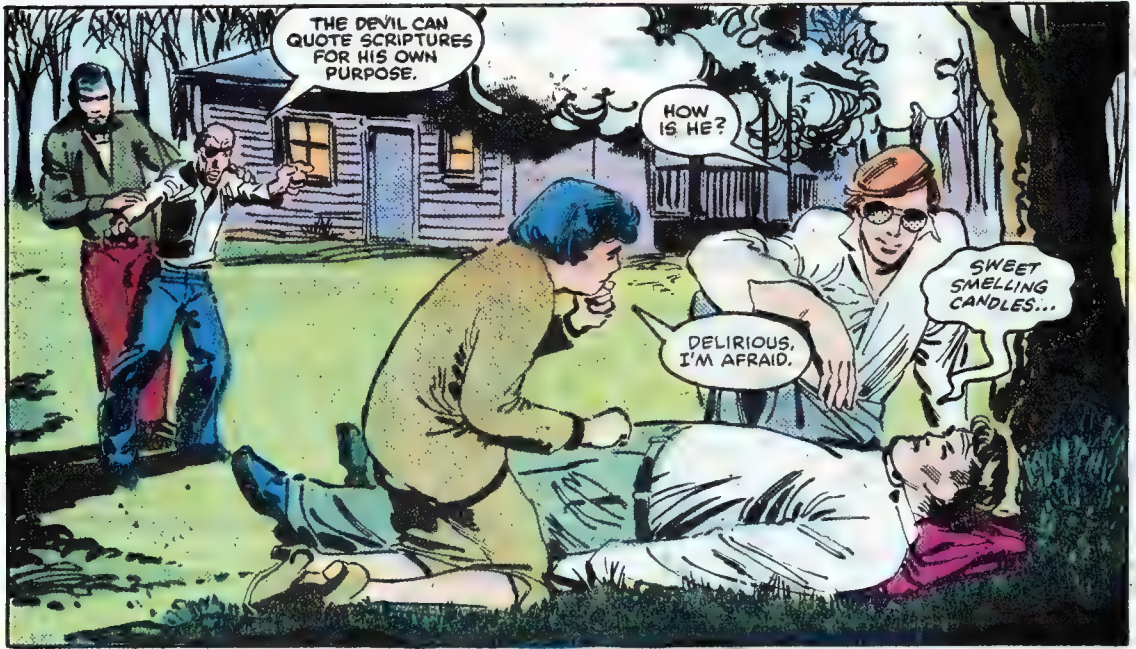






BUT BEFORE THE GUNMAN CAN FIRE,
DAREDEVIL FLINGS HIS CLUB AND--





IT IS TWILIGHT
AS DAREDEVIL
APPROACHES
THE ESTATE OF
JEREMIAH JENK.
SOME 20 MILES
DISTANT, WHERE...

DAREDEVIL!

SOUNDS
LIKE MARVIN
THE TOOTH--
ONE OF THE
KINGPIN'S
EMPLOYEES.

AND I SENSE
A SECOND PLAYMATE
TO HIS LEFT.

NEXT TIME I
MEET THE KINGPIN,
I'LL ASK HIM TO
EXPLAIN HIS INTEREST
IN THIS. BUT NOW--

WOULD YOU
GENTLEMEN
CARE TO STEP
ASIDE?

THE BOSS
SAYS NOBODY
GITS INSIDE...
INCLUDIN' YOU.

SPECIALLY
HIM!

I DON'T
HAVE TIME
TO ARGUE--

SOX

SOX

--I MAY
ALREADY
BE TOO
LATE!

AND IF
I'M NOT, I
PROBABLY
WILL BE
UNLESS I
REACH HIM
BEFORE
DARK.



LET ME PAST, PLEASE.
I DON'T WANT TO
HURT YOU--

--AND YOUR
FATHER IS IN
TERRIBLE
DANGER.

FROM
YOU!

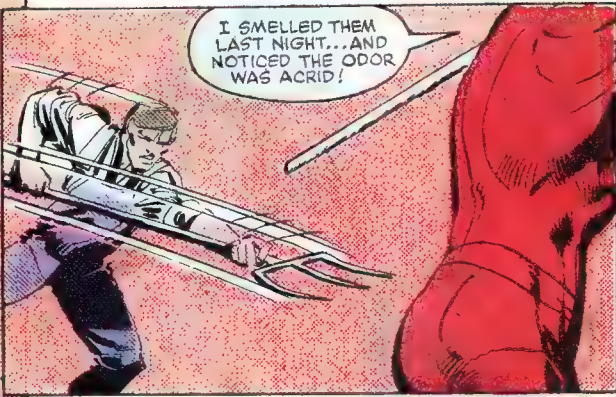
NOT FROM
ME, LET ME
EXPLAIN--

FOR 70
YEARS THE
CONGREGATION
HAS BEEN WANTING
TO KILL HIM, BUT
THEY COULDN'T!
HE WAS A MAJOR
CRIMINAL... TOO
WELL PRO-
TECTED...

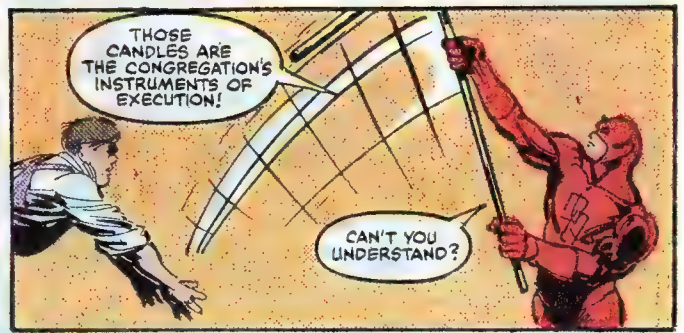
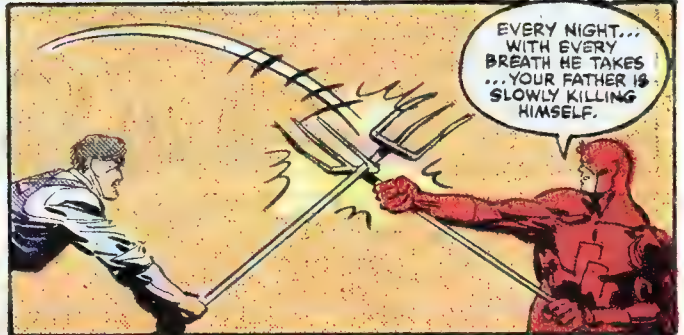
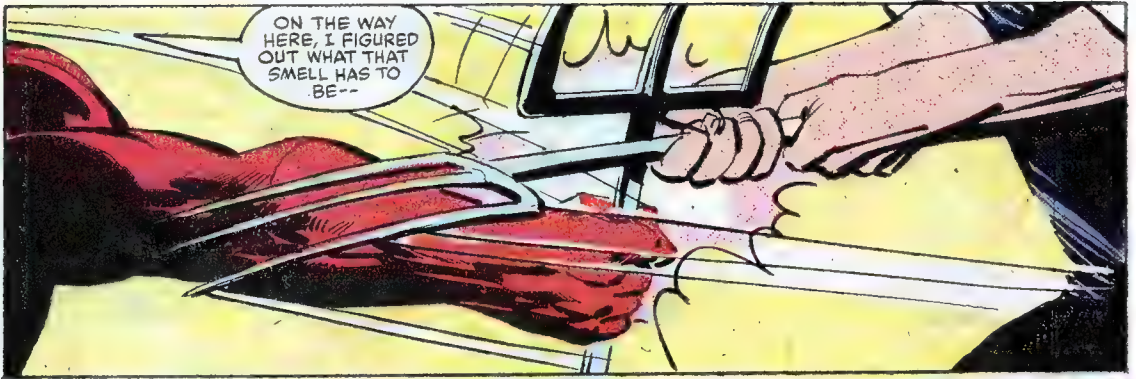
A FEW MONTHS
AGO, HE FINALLY
GAVE THEM THEIR
OPPORTUNITY. HE
SENT YOU TO BUY
CANDLES FOR HIM--

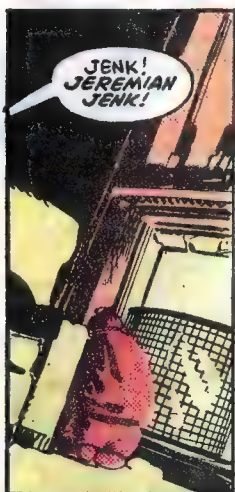
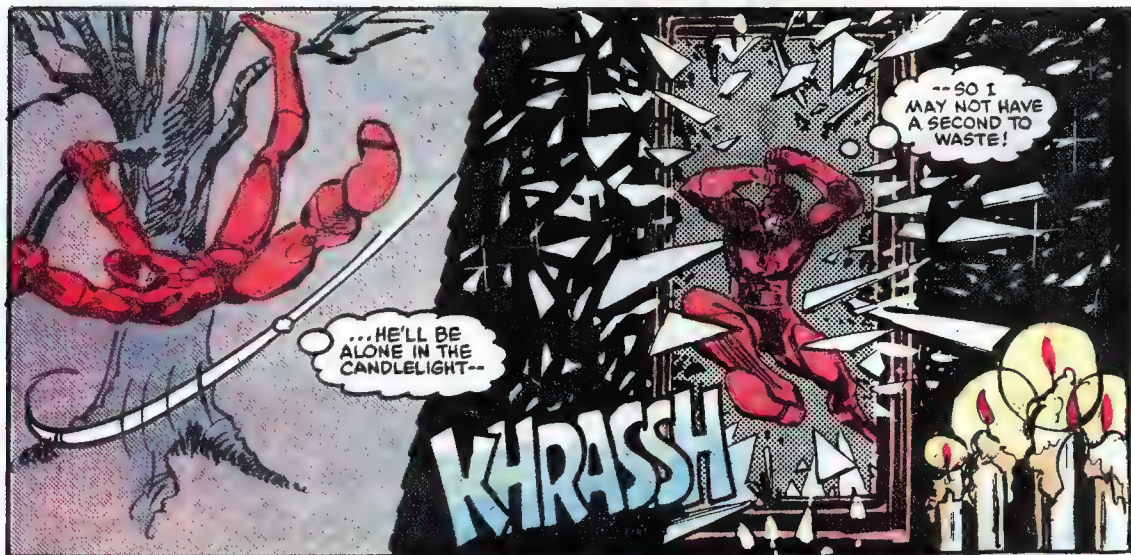


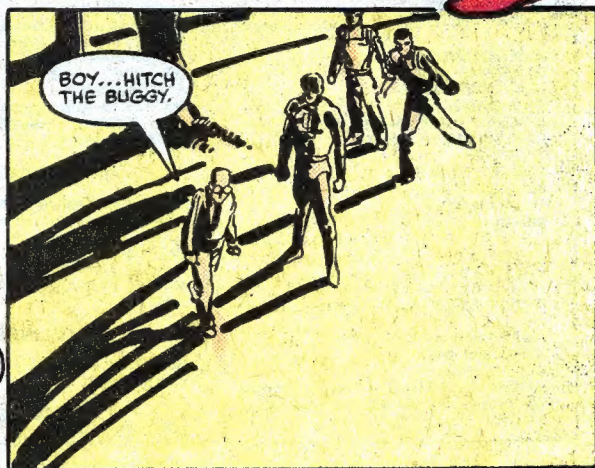
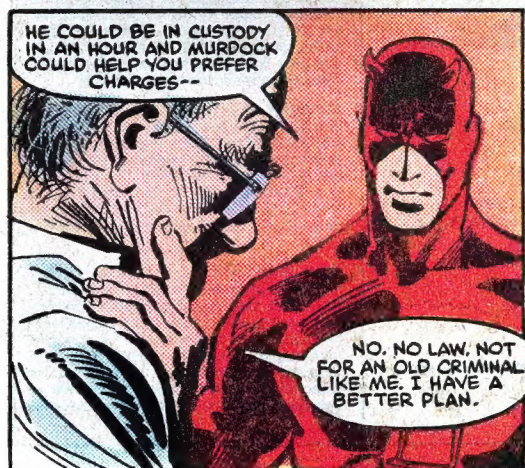
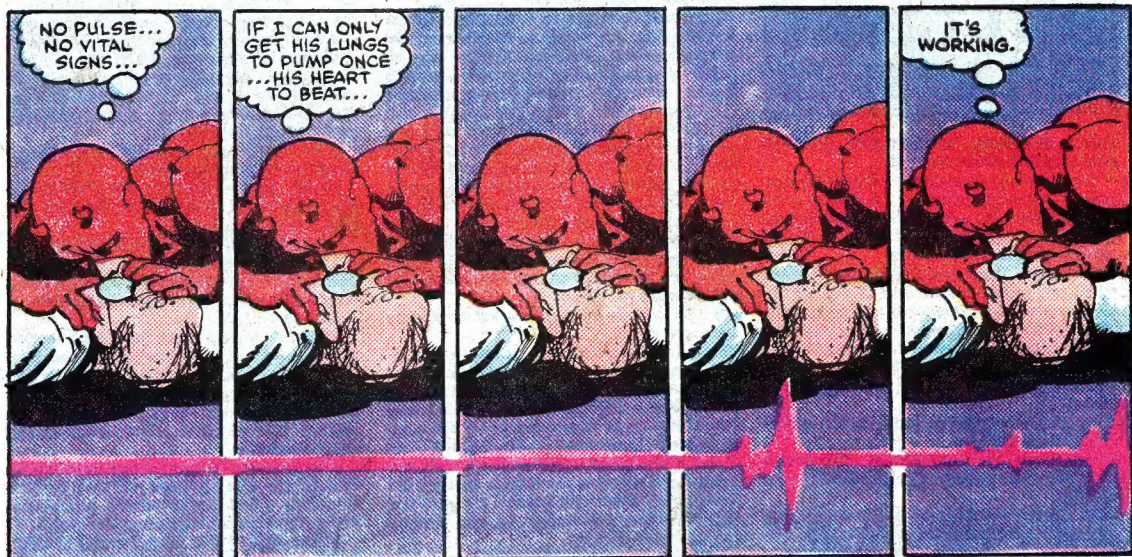
-- CANDLES
MADE BY THE
CONGREGATION
... ACTUALLY
DEADLY
WEAPONS.



I SMELLED THEM
LAST NIGHT... AND
NOTICED THE ODOR
WAS ACRID!





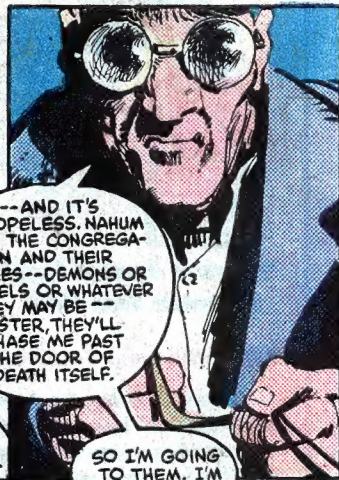




YOU MENTIONED
A PLAN.

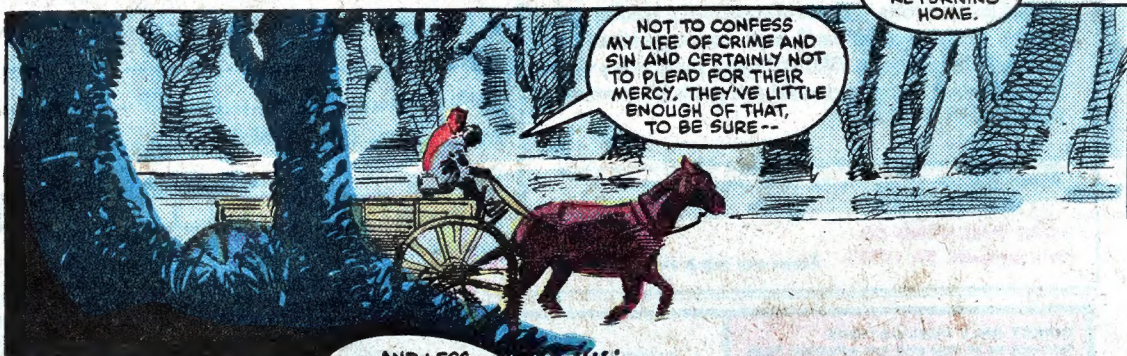
YES. JUST
BEFORE I SLEPT
A WHILE AGO,
I HAD A
REALIZATION.

I REALIZED
THAT FOR A FULL
70 YEARS, I'VE
BEEN RUNNING--



--AND IT'S
HOPELESS. NAHUM
AND THE CONGREGA-
TION AND THEIR
ALLIES--DEMONS OR
ANGELS OR WHATEVER
THEY MAY BE--
MISTER, THEY'LL
CHASE ME PAST
THE DOOR OF
DEATH ITSELF.

SO I'M GOING
TO THEM. I'M
RETURNING
HOME.

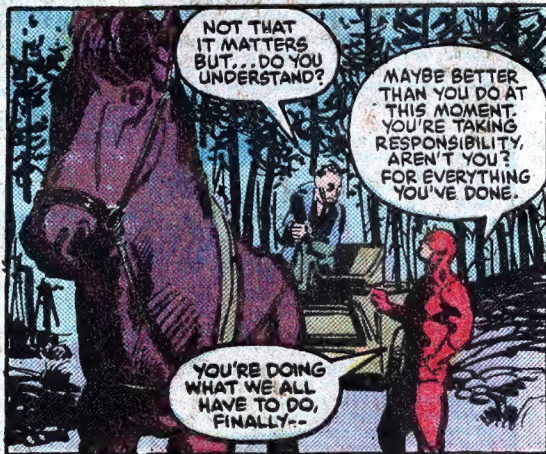


NOT TO CONFESS
MY LIFE OF CRIME AND
SIN AND CERTAINLY NOT
TO PLEAD FOR THEIR
MERCY. THEY'VE LITTLE
ENOUGH OF THAT,
TO BE SURE--



--AND LESS
FORGIVENESS. NO,
I'LL SIMPLY PRESENT
MYSELF AND LET
THEM DO AS THEY
WILL.

TAKE THESE.
A GIFT. A
SOUVENIR.



NOT THAT
IT MATTERS
BUT... DO YOU
UNDERSTAND?

MAYBE BETTER
THAN YOU DO AT
THIS MOMENT.
YOU'RE TAKING
RESPONSIBILITY,
AREN'T YOU?
FOR EVERYTHING
YOU'VE DONE.

YOU'RE DOING
WHAT WE ALL
HAVE TO DO,
FINALLY--



--PASSING
JUDGEMENT ON
YOURSELF.

"AND HE LOOKED FOR JUDGEMENT
BUT BEHOLD OPPRESSION; FOR
RIGHTEOUSNESS, BUT BEHOLD A CRY."

END

BULLPEN BULLETINS

GOOD MORNING, AFTERNOON, OR EVENING AS THE CASE MAY BE!

Welcome to my first-ever interview in this column. I'm asking questions of the man who has more copies of his work in print than any other human being in the history of the world, Marvel super-pro inker, **Vince Colletta**.

J.S.: Let's see... you've been inking since 1950, and you're very fast and prolific... so, including international reprints of your comics and your newspaper strip work, I figure that your copies-in-print total goes well into the billions.

Vince: Yeah... well, I never had a day without work... and I never had to ask for a single one of those jobs.

J.S.: You know you've made it when editors come to you with jobs.

Vince: I never let an editor down... I never let a company down. I always give my best work and on time.

J.S.: Back in the days when Marvel ran polls wherein the readers voted for their favorite writers and artists, you often finished first or second against impressive competition. You must have been doing great work. I always liked your stuff — especially those issues of Thor you inked back in the 1960's!

Vince: Thanks.

J.S.: Has anyone ever told you that you look like a Mafia Boss?

Vince: Back when Stan Lee was doing your job he once printed photos of all the artists in the comics one month. After he saw how my picture came out he called me up and asked me to come back and get another picture taken. He thought I looked too much like a gangster. He didn't want me to scare the kids... or their parents.

J.S.: Is it true that you know the guy who played Columbo — Peter Falk?

Vince: I met him back when I had a photography studio, besides inking comics. Because I photographed a lot of actors, actresses, and beautiful models for magazines and for their portfolios, I met a lot of people who became famous — like George Maharis, James Farentino...

J.S.: You're known for your beautiful women... inking wise, I mean. Everybody says that you're one of the best for inking strips featuring female characters. I guess photographing all of those models and actresses helped.

Vince: Yeah.

J.S.: What's your philosophy about inking?

Vince: Well, first of all; some inkers like to pick and choose... they'll only do certain jobs over certain pencils... and they'll take their time, no matter what the deadline is, even if the editor is in a jam, or a colorist is waiting for pages to come in so they can earn a living, too. I can't be that way. I like to feel that I'm part of the team, and we're all in the game together. If the editor asks me to ink a story by, say, a young, inexperienced penciler who still has some rough edges to his work, I'll do it and I'll do the best I can. It might not come out quite as good as a job that I'd inked over by John Buscema... it can't. No way. But, I'd rather give it a try to help out the new guy, the editor, and the team than pick and choose jobs that will make me look good.

J.S.: Explain how the pencils affect the way the inking comes out.

Vince: The readers only see the ink. All the pencil lines are covered by the inker's inklines. Once the book is printed, no one can tell what the pencil drawings looked like before the inker inked them. They might have given you a tightly rendered face, for instance, or maybe just an oval shape with smudges about where the eyes and mouth go. If he gives you precise drawing, the finished, inked head will look like the penciler's style. If he gives you an oval, you're really getting the inker's drawing.

J.S.: It's up to the editor to make sure that the penciler has held up his end. Still, I know, that in a story which might have 150 separate panels, even the best pencilers might blow a few panels.

Vince: I think the inker should follow the penciler's style and try to make it come through. A lot of inkers these days overpower the pencils, though. The penciler just gives them a framework and the inkers take over from there. That's okay if it's what the penciler and the editor want.

J.S.: Sometimes it is. Frank Miller worked that way with Klaus Johnson, on Daredevil for a while... and Walt Simonson did it with Tom Palmer on Star Wars, too. They really sort of stopped being penciler/inker teams and kind of melded together. Unless guys are working on that kind of basis, though, I think I agree with you — the penciler should bear primary responsibility.

Vince: Right... since I've never worked with a penciler the way Klaus worked with Frank, I've always tried to enhance the pencils. It's not easy. Pencil drawings often have a life and a charm that can't be captured in the inking. Pencils give an infinite range of grays and tones. An inkline is either there or it's not. Sometimes it's frustrating. There have been times when I've tried to give editors jobs back. I told them, "these

pencils are beautiful. Get someone better to ink them!" But, they always insisted that I do them.

J.S.: Who's your favorite penciler? And inker?

Vince: I have favorites, but I'd rather not say. Every guy in the business is good in his own way. They're all pros. It's like baseball — not every player can be a Reggie Jackson, but each one has a reason to be here.

J.S.: You helped a passel of people get started in the business, right?

Vince: Michael Golden, Bill Sienkiewicz, Danny Bulanadi, Frank Miller, Marshall Rogers... and others. I forget...

J.S.: Which of yours did you like best?

Vince: I've inked a lot of stories in thirty-three years. Too many to single one out. But, I'll tell you about the best day in my whole career...

J.S.: Okay, I'll bite...

Vince: It was the day I came back to start working at Marvel again after being with another company for a while. I'll never forget the welcome I got here in the Bullpen... it was like coming home. I feel like I'm in the major leagues again. People care here, about each other and about the comics.

J.S.: You're doing Thor, Dazzler, and Crystar. Plus, since everybody loved your work on Dark Crystal over Bret Blevins' pencils, you two are doing a Hulk Graphic Novel together, right?

Vince: Right. I love doing the kind of artful, meticulous linework that Bret's pencils call for. I'm looking forward to that.

J.S.: Me, too. Thanks, Vince!

THAT'S IT!

Till next month when the Bullpen Bulletin returns to its usual non-interview format.

But, if you like the idea of reading your favorite Marvel creative peoples' answers to my occasionally intelligent questions, you'll find an interview in just about every edition of my *Bullpen Bulletin Special* which appears in all issues of *Moon Knight*, *Ka-Zar*, and the *Micronauts* which are on sale through subscription or at your local comics specialty shop. If you don't know where the comics shop nearest you is, write to me. I'll let you know.

Stay well,



Jim Shooter

THE MIGHTY MARVEL CHECKLIST

- ☐ MARVEL TWO-IN-ONE #99 — The Thing, and Rom.
- ☐ TEAM AMERICA #12 — Double-sized last issue!
- ☐ DAZZLER #26
- ☐ KA-ZAR #26 — Special wraparound photo-cover
- ☐ NEW MUTANTS #3
- ☐ DAREDEVIL #194
- ☐ DARK CRYSTAL #2
- ☐ KING CONAN #16
- ☐ AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #240
- ☐ CAPTAIN AMERICA #281
- ☐ THOR #331
- ☐ GHOST RIDER #80
- ☐ MICRONAUTS #52
- ☐ MOON KNIGHT #31
- ☐ INDIANA JONES #5
- ☐ U.S. 1 #1 — An all new series of truckin' adventures, by AL MILGROM
- ☐ CRYSTAR #1 — See Hype Box
- ☐ KULL THE CONQUEROR #1
- ☐ SUPER VILLAIN CLASSICS #1 — See Hype Box
- ☐ INCREDIBLE HULK #283
- ☐ AVENGERS #231
- ☐ CONAN #146
- ☐ MARVEL TALES #151 — Reprints Amazing Spider-Man #13 "The Menace of Mysterio", by STAN LEE and STEVE DITKO.

- ☐ X-MEN #169
- ☐ ROM #42
- ☐ POWER MAN/IRON FIST #93
- ☐ G.I. JOE #11
- ☐ FANTASTIC FOUR #254
- ☐ MARVEL TEAM-UP #129 — Spider-Man and the Vialon.
- ☐ IRON MAN #170 — See Hype Box
- ☐ PETER PARKER, THE SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN #78
- ☐ DEFENDERS #119
- ☐ STAR WARS #71
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- ☐ BLIP #2
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EPIC COMICS

- ☐ DREADSTAR #3

THE HYPE BOX

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IRON MAN #170 — As if the job DENNY O'NEIL, LUKE McDONNELL and STEVE MITCHELL have been doing on this mag in recent months wasn't fantastic enough, this issue heralds the beginning of a new era for the golden Avenger, as alcoholism renders Tony Stark incapable of functioning as Iron Man, and the responsibility of the famous armor falls — perhaps forever — to... ah, but that would be telling.

DEBBY O'NEIL
EDITOR
LINDA GRANT
ASSISTANT EDITOR

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(Signed) Ed Shulkin — Business Manager